

My name is Ted Gehring. I am filing this on my own behalf. I am a private citizen.

I strongly oppose reclassification of internet access out of its current Title II protections, and make this statement because I believe that I must express my opinions lest I regret the eventual outcome. I recognize that, in aggregate, the precise words I say here make no difference, but I feel they must nonetheless be said.

I would like to examine net neutrality from the other end: under a “net polar” world, to coin a phrase, there exists a double standard. ISPs would not be liable for filtering the content they transmit, but could filter it nonetheless. This essentially means that when it comes to violations of the law, they are blameless, but when it comes to using those same types of tools to make money, they are free to do as they please. This is untenable: Comcast (for example) could

The internet is de facto a public utility at this stage of development. Getting a job requires it. Friends communicate with it ubiquitously. Jobs and businesses both small and large depend on the uninterrupted transmission of data. Without drastic lifestyle changes, the kind which few or no members of the public desire, they will essentially be stuck with any changes to internet policy. This is not a free internet; indeed it is the opposite: one we would have to use whether or not we like it, because of its ubiquity.

I recognize many more eloquent speakers will make arguments above and beyond these, but I felt that my voice had to be heard, along with the other seven million or so. I sincerely hope the FCC will keep the status quo on this: please keep the net neutral.

Thank you.